के पक्ष में मंजूरी आदेश को संशोधित किया गया तथा उन्हें 300 रू० प्रतिमाह 1-8 1980 से मंजूर किये गये। इस तारीख से पेंशन के लिये पात्रता की अधिकतम आय सीमा हटा दी गई और महा लेखाकार, उत्तर प्रदेश को श्री मनोहर सिंह द्वारा 15-8-1972 से 31-7-1980 तक ली गई राशि की वसूल करने का अनुरोध किया गया, क्योंकि इस अवधि में, श्री मनोहर सिंह, 1972 की योजना के तहत, 5000 रु० से अधिक आय होने के कारण, पेंशन के लिये पात्र नहीं थे।

(ग) मई, 1984 में उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने 1980 और 1981 की अपनी पहली रिपोर्ट से उल्टी रिपोर्ट भेजी जिसमें कहा गया था कि श्री मनोहर सिंह की वर्ष 1972 से 1980 तक की वार्षिक आय 5000 रु० से कम है। चूंकि 1980 तथा 1981 की पहली रिपोर्टें, 1984 की रिपोर्ट की अवधि के ज्यादा निकट थीं, इसलिये राज्य सरकार की 1984 की रिपोर्ट स्वीकार नहीं की गई।

Crash of a Canberra Aircraft

1292. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA; Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state;

(a) whether a Canberra fighter aircraft of the Indian Air Force crashed on the HAL airport recently while or a training flight; and

(b) whether Government have conducted any inquiry into the circumstances of the crash; if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH); (a) No, Sir. No Canberra aircraft crashed at HAL airport. However, on 24th March, 1986, a Canberra aircraft of the Indian Air Force was damaged while landing at the HAL airfield in Bangalore.

(b) A Court of Inquiry has investigated the cau-e of this accident. Its report *is* being finalised. The findings, however, cannot be disclosed in the public interest.

Restrictions on promotions to Joint Secretary

1293. DR. SHYAM SUNDAR MOHAPATRA; Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that under new reforms Government have restricted promotions to Joint Secretaries to only 50 per cent of these coming up for empanelment; and

(b) whether Government propose to evolve a different system for promotions, based on fulfilment of minimum conditions, rather than percentages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM); (a) No, Sir. The assessment of the suitability cf officers for appointment to posts at the level of Joint Secretary at the Centre is based strictly on the record and performance of the officers.

(b) In view of answer to (a) above, the question does not arise. Howevej, it may be stated that as part of the on-going administrative reforms, it is now being considered whether a common and rigorous assessment of suitability of IAS officers for senior posts both at the Centre and in the States may be adopted. No decision has so far been taken in this regard.

Abolition of Freight Equalisation Scheme

1294. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been or are being taken by Government to abolish Freight Equalisation Scheme which is in force since 1957; and

(b) whether Government are aware that the said scheme has crippled the industry in the eastern region in general and in West Bengal in particular?